

Participants and Observers in ICES

1. Participants (Experts and Advisers)

1.1 Participants, Experts and Advisers in Council, Bureau, FC, ACOM, SCICOM

Each Contracting Party may appoint “experts and advisers” as it may determine to assist in the work of the Council (Convention Article 6).

Delegates can nominate experts and advisers appointed to attend scientific and business meetings when there is a requirement for *pro forma* representation (Rule 1).

1.2 Participants in Expert Groups and Study Groups

1.2.1 Nomination by Delegates: as under 1.1

1.2.2 Nomination by Chairs of Expert Groups:

Chairs of Expert Groups (**Science**) may appoint experts who can contribute to the work of the Group. When a Chair is appointing experts, the Delegates should be informed in advance where possible, or otherwise as soon afterwards as is practicable (Council 2004).

Chairs of Expert Groups under an **Advisory** Committee can appoint Experts in consultation with the national Delegates of the expert’s country. In so agreeing, Council recognized that (a) no obligation would be placed on ICES, or on national Delegates, to fund such participation, and (b) if a Chair wished to appoint an expert from a non-member country, a Delegate of a Member Country could sponsor that expert (Council 2005). Nominations by Chairs of experts from outside the ICES area or from international organizations should be agreed with the Secretariat.

1.2.3 Nominations by Committee Chairs:

The ACOM/SCICOM chair or ACOM/SCICOM can nominate members of expert groups under their responsibility. When a Chair is appointing experts, the Delegates should be informed in advance where possible, or otherwise as soon afterwards as is practicable (Council 2004).

1.3 Participants in Workshops

ACOM and SCICOM can establish Workshops which are open to **stakeholder participation** by **self-nomination**. Stakeholders that are eligible for workshop **participation** are: **scientists and experts** from public institutes, universities, governments, International Organizations and Conventions, public consultative bodies (such as for instance RACs under the EU CFP), NGOs (such as for instance industry organisations and environmental NGOs) and interested individuals.

1.4 Participants in Advice Drafting Groups:

Nominations for participation in ADG are made by ACOM.

1.5 Participation in ASC and Symposia – open to all interested

2. Observers

2.1 Observers at Statutory Meeting: Council (incl. Bureau, FC, and Sub Groups)

2.1.1 Observers from Member Countries:

Delegates (Member Countries) can nominate observers to Council, Bureau and FC meetings.

2.1.2 Observers from Partner Organizations with Financial MoU:

Partner Organizations can send observers to the Council meeting if established in the MoU

2.1.3 Observers from Partner Organizations with LoA, IGO and other organizations:

Council may invite any international or other organizations having objectives related to those of the Council to be represented at its meetings by observers (Rule 2).

2.1.4 Other observers:

Other observers (NGO, press, interested individuals, students, social scientists, etc) may be accepted on a case-by-case decision to be present at Council meetings

2.2. The Statutory Meeting: ASC

The ASC is open for all interested persons to participate upon registration and paying a registration fee. Invitations to the ASC are published on the ICES website and via the ICES network. There is thus no requirement for a specific observer policy in relation to the ASC.

2.3 Observers to the Advisory Process

Observers to the advisory process are subject to the rules laid down in CM 2009 Doc 2.3 (ICES Policy for Observers of Advisory Services) and ACOM 2009 “Guidelines for Observers in the Advisory Process”.

2.3.1 Observers to ACOM, Advice Drafting Groups, the technical review process, and data compilation workshops

Stakeholder and Client observers are accepted in ACOM, Advice Drafting Groups, the technical review process, and data compilation workshops (CM2007 Annex 2 version 3). These activities are open to observers from Governmental Organizations, Intergovernmental

Organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations and individuals (e.g. scientists, students, Press, industry, consumers), after application for observer status has been approved by ICES.

On request, ICES will entitle representatives from competent authorities including governments and intergovernmental organisation including the **EU** as **observers** to meetings and web conferences of the ICES Advisory Committee (ACOM) and to other groups established by ACOM in accordance with policies of the ICES Council.

2.3.1.1 Special arrangement for Greenland and Faroe Islands:

The two “home rule” observers from Faroe Islands and Greenland will have participants’ rights in ACOM as established under the MoU.

2.3.2 Observers to Advisory Expert Groups

Employees of Commissions with which ICES has an MoU to provide advice will be allowed to observe ICES expert groups.

Employees of government agencies that apply ICES advice to management of fisheries or other marine ecosystem uses or impacts will be allowed to observe ICES expert groups.

No other observers are allowed in Advisory Expert Groups

2.4 Observers in the Science Programme

ICES Science activities (SCICOM, expert Groups, workshops, Symposia) are generally open to observers. The decision to accept an observer is by the Chair of the meeting, in consultation with the Secretariat.

Links

CM 2009 Del Doc 2.3

<http://www.ices.dk/advice/Policy%20for%20observers%20of%20the%20advisory%20process.pdf>

ACOM Guidelines for Observers:

[http://www.ices.dk/advice/Guidelines for Observers in the Advisory Process.pdf](http://www.ices.dk/advice/Guidelines%20for%20Observers%20in%20the%20Advisory%20Process.pdf)

Council 2010 Amendment on observers in Expert Groups

<http://www.ices.dk/products/CMdocs/CM-2010/DEL/Del-02.710.pdf>